



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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Governor Hoeven Proclaims *Women's Health Week* in North Dakota

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor John Hoeven has proclaimed May 10 through 16, 2009, as *Women's Health Week* in North Dakota.

“*Women's Health Week* is a celebration of women taking responsibility for their own health through greater knowledge and understanding of health issues,” Hoeven said. “I encourage all North Dakota women to make their health a top priority.”

The theme for this year's *Women's Health Week* is “It's Your Time,” and the goal is to encourage women to take simple steps for a longer, healthier and happier life. Communities, businesses, government agencies, health organizations and other groups are working together to educate women about steps they can take to improve their physical and mental health and lower their risks of certain diseases. Important steps include:

- Getting at least 2 ½ hours of moderate physical activity, 1 hour and 15 minutes of vigorous physical activity, or a combination of both each week
- Eating a nutritious diet.
- Visiting a health-care professional for regular checkups and preventive screenings.
- Avoiding risky behaviors like smoking and not wearing a seatbelt.
- Paying attention to mental health, including getting enough sleep and managing stress.

As part of *Women's Health Week*, National Women's Checkup Day will be observed Monday, May 11, 2009. Women's Checkup Day encourages women to visit health-care professionals to receive or schedule a checkup and promotes regular checkups as vital to the early detection of heart disease, diabetes, cancer, mental health illnesses, sexually transmitted infections and other conditions.

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Visit the health department home page at www.ndhealth.gov.

In addition, the eight-week Women and Girls Out Moving Across the Nation (WOMAN) Challenge, an online physical activity program, runs from May 10 through July 4, 2009. Information about the WOMAN Challenge is available at www.womenshealth.gov/woman/.

Information about recommended screenings and tests for both women and men can be found at www.4woman.gov/tools/. The prevention guide, "A Lifetime of Good Health: Your Guide to Staying Healthy," is available at www.4woman.gov/pub/pg.cfm or can be ordered by calling 800.944.WOMAN (9662).

For more information about *Women's Health Week*, contact Kim Senn or Char Rohrich-Reiswig, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2493.

PROCLAMATION
WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK
May 10 – 16, 2009

WHEREAS, Women's Health Week is a weeklong health observance with the theme "It's Your Time"; and

WHEREAS, Women's Health Week encourages and empowers women to make their health a top priority; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota communities, businesses, government agencies, health organizations, and other groups work together to educate women about steps they can take to improve their physical and mental health and lower their risks of certain diseases; and

WHEREAS, Women's Health Week is a celebration of women taking responsibility for their own health through greater knowledge and understanding; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota women are encouraged to promote health and prevent disease and illness by taking simple steps for a longer, healthier and happier life.

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I hereby proclaim May 10-16, 2009, **WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven
Governor

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